

**FROM CHAIRMAN GENE LOEWY**

**SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR HEART BILL RETIREES**

I am taking this opportunity to inform you of a particular benefit that is available to those of you who will be survived by a living spouse. Some years ago, due to the large number of NYC active Police and Fire Officers who died at the World Trade Center the City enacted legislation for surviving spouses that granted them Health coverage and Health and Welfare Benefits. The Health coverage provided by the City and the Health and Welfare Benefits by the Unions. This then added coverage such as eyeglasses, dental, prescriptions, etc., to those new and existing widows.

What I find is that some of the **“Heart Case” widows** are not aware of the aforementioned provisions. The Pension Section has determined in order for them to qualify, regardless of the cause of death, is that he would have survived if he had a healthy heart. In order for the widow to qualify all that needs to be done is to obtain a letter from his Cardiologist that the deceased was under treatment for the heart condition submitted to them. Once accepted by the City Health Benefits Section the widow must **reregister** with them by contacting them indicating her Social Security Number and then is included in the Medicare Part **“B”** reimbursement program.